

## Did you know...



Music is a great tool for the development of language and listening skills. By participating in music activities, your child can expand his or her vocabulary and improve his or her attention span, concentration, and memory.

Singing helps children develop phonological awareness, which is the ability to hear the smallest sounds in letters and words. When you sing, syllables are broken apart and children can hear letter sounds and rhymes clearly.

You don't have to be a great singer to sing with your child. If you don't know melodies or words of familiar children's songs, there are a lot of websites you can refer to. You can also check out CDs and songbooks from your local library.

## Here's how...

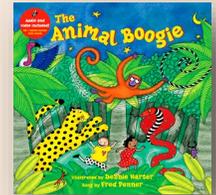


- ✦ Play children's music in the car while you are driving.
- ✦ Make up silly songs as you go through your day, such as, "If you're hungry and you know it, eat a snack."
- ✦ Find out what songs your child is learning in school and sing them around the house. Many songs can be found on YouTube if you don't know the tune.
- ✦ Sing in the language that is most comfortable for you.
- ✦ Go to free local family-style concerts and enjoy some music together.

## Read



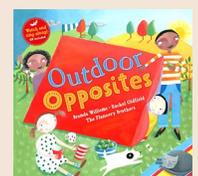
### ***The Animal Boogie,*** **illustrated by Debbie Harter**



Can you boogie? Deep in the Indian jungle, children from around the world learn to shake, swing, and stomp with all kinds of different animals. This song book includes a CD so you and your child can sing along.

You can see a video of this song, along with other singalong books from Barefoot at:

[www.barefootbooks.com/animalboogie](http://www.barefootbooks.com/animalboogie)



## Choose Books



### **Other Song books:**

*May There Always Be Sunshine*, by Jim Gill

*There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, by Pam Adams

*Miss Mary Mack: A Hand Clapping Rhyme*, by Mary Ann Hoberman

*If You're Happy and You Know It*, by Anna McQuinn

*Sing With Me/Canta Conmigo: Six Classic Songs in English and Spanish*, by José-Luis Orozco

*Old MacDonald Had a Farm*, by Gris Grimly

*Singing in the Rain*, by Tim Hopgood

## Talk



*I notice, I wonder, It reminds me of...* This is a great way to talk with your child about the world around them. Take a few minutes to watch an army of ants on the sidewalk, or study the lines on a leaf. Use these phrases, “I notice...” “I wonder...” “It reminds me of...” Share what you see, ask questions, and make connections to something familiar; and ask your child to do the same.

## Write



If holding or writing with a pencil is challenging for your child, try some of these activities to help practice a “tripod” hold (thumb on one side, second finger on top, third finger on other side):

- Pick up small objects with tweezers
- Tear strips of paper into tiny squares
- Clip clothespins onto cardboard
- Position washers or bolts onto screws
- Put a cotton ball, button or coin in your child’s writing hand, gripping the object with the ring and pinky fingers, while coloring.



## Play



### Stuffed Animal Picnic

Even though life can be very busy it’s so important to spend a little time playing with your child each day. Consider turning lunchtime one day this month into an indoor picnic for you, your child, and some of their favorite stuffed friends. Pack a simple lunch in a basket, then go on a “safari” through the house to find your perfect picnic spot. Lay out your picnic and enjoy some down time together.



## Sing



### BINGO

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-O.

B-I-N-G-O!

B-I-N-G-O!

B-I-N-G-O!

And Bingo was his name-O!

There was a farmer had a dog,  
And Bingo was his name-O.

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

And Bingo was his name-O!

*Continue clapping one more letter in each verse,  
until you are clapping for all five letters.*

You can hear the tune at

<http://bussongs.com/songs/bingo.php>



## At your library...



Most libraries have free Wi-Fi that families can use for at-home learning. During the pandemic, many libraries have expanded Wi-Fi service. Some are loaning mobile hotspots, as well as laptops or devices. Call your library or check their website for more information about computers, devices, and Wi-Fi.